

STUDIES IN THE HELIANTHEAE (ASTERACEAE). XIII.

A NEW GENUS, PERYMENIOPSIS.

Harold Robinson
Department of Botany
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC., 20560.

The genus Oyadaea is typified by O. verbesinoides DC. from Costa Rica and Panama and the genus is found in the Andes southward to Bolivia. A few species assigned to the genus from farther north in Central America and Mexico are of doubtful relationship and one of these, O. ovalifolia A.Gray of Central Mexico is sufficiently distinct to require recognition as a separate genus. The new genus is apparently related more closely to Perymenium Schrad. and is here given the name Perymeniopsis.

The new genus is like both Oyadaea and Perymenium in having the general characters of the subtribe Ecliptinae. Perymeniopsis is distinguished by the unique pappus form with numerous short deciduous setae in clusters at the outer and inner ends and squamellae along the middle of the sides. The squamellae are inserted at a level above the setae which raises interesting problems regarding the equivalency of the structures. The presence of short deciduous setae is restricted in the Ecliptinae to Melanthera Rohr., Rojasanthe Standl. & Steyerl., and the more closely related pair Perymenium and Steiractinia Blake. Perymeniopsis is distinct from all of these by the presence of the lateral squamellae, but is further distinct from Perymenium by the sterile rays and the numerous stomates on the corolla lobes. The stomates are unusually prominent on the flowers and one has even been seen on an anther appendage. Steiractinia also has sterile rays, but that South American genus has fibers along the veins of the disk corolla throat and has the setae of the pappus born in a complete circle on a raised and expanded callous. The characters of Steiractinia suggest that it might not be as closely related to Perymenium as generally considered.

Perymeniopsis H. Robinson, genus nov. Asteracearum
(Heliantheae).

Plantae frutescentes mediocriter ramosae. Folia opposita distincte petiolata; laminae ellipticae

leniter trinervatae base obtusae margine remote serrulatae apice acutae vel breviter acuminatae. Inflorescentiae subcorymboso-paniculatae. Capitula in pedicellis 3-10 cm longis disposita; squamae involucri subimbricatae 3-seriatae late oblongae apice obtusae; receptacula paleacea, paleis superne linearibus apice obtusis. Flores radii steriles; corollae bilobatae vel obscure trilobatae adaxialiter papillosae; flores disci hermaphroditi; corollae breviter 5-lobatae, lobis triangularibus extus scabris et stomatiferis intus inferne leavibus superne et margine papillosis, nervis in faucis non fibrosis; thecae antherarum nigrescentes, cellulis endothecialibus elongatis in parietibus transversalibus 1-2-noduliferis; appendices antherarum ovatae non glanduliferae glabrae vel breviter unisetiferae; rami stylorum abaxialiter superne papilloso apice acuti, lineis stigmataceis duplicibus; canales resiniferi hyalini in stylis abaxiales. Achaenia disci compressa in parietibus nigrescentia non striata; pappus biformis, setis deciduis in partibus polaribus fasciculatis subapice insertis, squamellis in partibus lateralibus medianis apicaliter insertis. Grana pollinis ca. 35μ in diametro.

Type species: Oyedaea ovalifolia A.Gray

The genus contains one known species.

Perymeniopsis ovalifolia (A.Gray) H.Robinson. comb.
nov. Oyedaea ovalifolia A.Gray, Proc. Amer.
Acad. 5: 183. 1861.